

*Season's Greetings*

# Maadhyam

Delivering news to tobacco control professionals

The last few months have witnessed tremendous activity within the global tobacco control fraternity, as well as in India with regional conferences like AFACT 2010, various national and state level conferences and the issue of pictorial health warnings gaining significant momentum in public sphere.

Given that the date of implementation of the notified Indian warnings i.e. December 1, 2010, was drawing near, HRIDAY and Public Health Foundation of India in partnership with Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, organized a two-week public exhibition of strong and graphic pictures from across the world that inform millions of people across the world about the dangers of tobacco use. It was set on an interactive format, which showcased pictorial health warnings on tobacco products from different parts of the world and compared them to the weak and ineffective health warnings we have here in India.

This exhibition titled **"Pictures Save Lives – Choose and Save Millions"**, held during the India International Trade Fair from November 14-27, 2010 was inaugurated on Children's Day by enthusiastic youth health advocates from schools across Delhi, who also kick-started the activities at the exhibition.

Through opinion polls and signature appeals, **"Pictures Save Lives – Choose and Save Millions"** asked the masses, especially youth, to choose the warning they deem most appropriate in conveying the hazardous health effects of tobacco use. While the exhibition intended to build a movement for stronger pictorial health warnings in India, it also provided a unique opportunity for people to participate in policy reforms and development. Given the popularity of social media like Facebook and Twitter, constant updates from the exhibition were available on [www.facebook.com/youthforhealth](http://www.facebook.com/youthforhealth). (People can also participate in the interactive opinion poll on pictorial health warnings available at [www.hriday-shan.org](http://www.hriday-shan.org).)

From the day of inauguration, this campaign received overwhelming support from the thousands of people who visited the stall and participated in the activities, as well as from print electronic and online media, who covered the event extensively. In order to actively engage policymakers and Parliamentarians, youth health advocates visited their residences along with a compilation of the signatures and opinions of the masses collected at the Trade Fair. At least 15 Members of Parliament lent their support to the campaign. **Of the opinion poll conducted at the exhibition, nearly 80 percent, of the 13,020 respondents stated that the notified mouth cancer warnings are effective in conveying the health hazards of tobacco use. The appeal to the Indian Government for timely implementation of effective pictorial health warnings was signed by 12,531 people.**



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## Tobacco Control Updates - India

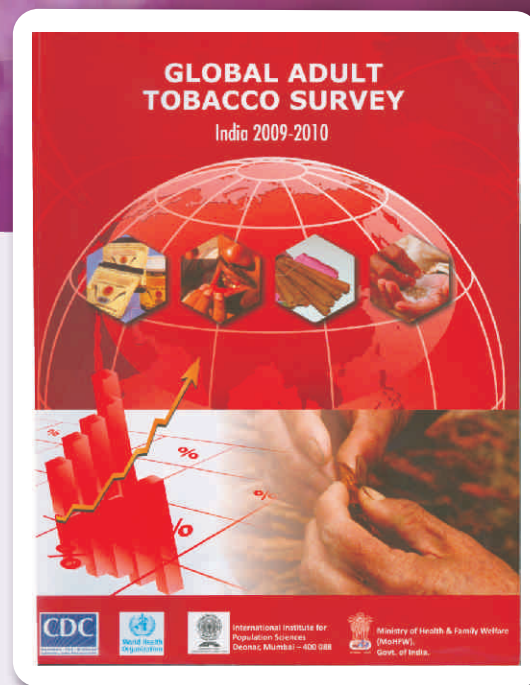
### Global Adult Tobacco Survey India 2009-2010 released this October

On October 19, 2010, the Hon'ble Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad released the 'Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS) India Report 2010' in the presence of the Hon'ble Ministers of State for Health and Family Welfare, Shri Dinesh Trivedi and Shri S. Gandhiselvan. The event, which witnessed the release of the country-wide indicators of adult tobacco use, also included a panel discussion on "Key Strategies for Tobacco Control". Speaking on the occasion, Shri Azad highlighted the importance of multi-sectoral collaboration for effective tobacco control given the increasing burden of tobacco use on the country.

GATS India, which is a global standard to monitor adult tobacco use, both smoking and smokeless forms, has been conducted in all 29 states and 2 Union Territories, covering 99.9 percent of India's population.

### Key Highlights of GATS India 2010

- 34.6% of adults currently use tobacco in any form (47.9% of males and 20.3% of females)
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- 14.0% of adults are currently tobacco smokers (24.3% of males and 2.9% of females)
- 5.7% of adults currently smoke cigarettes (.3% of males and 0.8% of females)
- 9.2% of adults currently smoke bidis (16.0% of males and 1.9% of females)
- 25.9% of adults currently use smokeless forms of tobacco (32.9% of males and 18.4% of females)
- 9.6% minors (ages 15-17 years) consumed tobacco in some form and most of them were able to purchase tobacco products
- Average age at initiation of tobacco use was 17.8 with 25.8% of females starting tobacco use before the age of 15
- Among daily users, 60.2% consumed tobacco within half an hour of waking up
- About five in ten adults (52.3%) were exposed to second-hand smoke at home and 29.0% at public places (mainly in public transport and restaurants)
- About two in three adults (64.5%) noticed advertisement or promotion of tobacco products
- Three in five current tobacco users (61.1%) noticed the health warning on tobacco packages and one in three current tobacco users (31.5%) thought of quitting tobacco because of the warning label
- Five in ten current smokers (46.6%) and users of smokeless tobacco (45.2%) planned to quit or at least thought of quitting



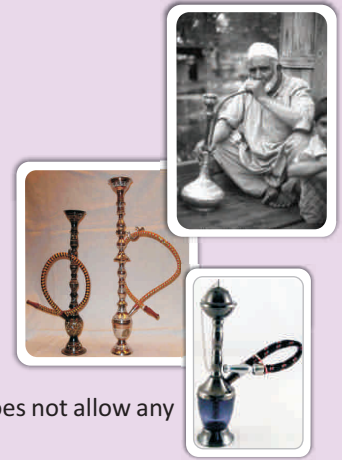
### Civil society advocacy efforts against GTNF 2010 on road to success

On September 17, 2010 the Karnataka High Court in its third hearing of a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by the Institute of Public Health (IPH), Bangalore, passed an interim order directing the Tobacco Board of India, a Ministry of Commerce and Industry, GOI entity to withdraw its sponsorship of the Global Tobacco Networking Forum (GTNF) 2010 stating that "the Board's participation is not a desirable act". The order had restrained India's Tobacco Board from participating in this event and incurring any expenditure by way of sponsorship. It also asked the Board to seek refunds of monetary expenditure already made for the event. The involvement of a Government of India entity as a sponsor of GTNF 2010, touted as the "Greatest Tobacco Talk Show on Earth", is a violation of Article 5.3 of FCTC, which states that the parties to the treaty agree to protect tobacco control policies from tobacco industry interference. Following the order, the Tobacco Board has withdrawn its sponsorship of GTNF 2010. For several months, tobacco control organizations like IPH, had been advocating strongly, individually and under the collective umbrella of the Advocacy Forum for Tobacco Control (AFTC), against this violation through media engagement and signature campaigns. The PIL was filed by IPH on September 2, 2010.



## Gujarat police comes down strongly on hookah parlours

Police officials in Vadodra, Gujarat, raided a hookah parlour, the first such restaurant / restaurants serving hookahs to have opened after three years, on September 6, 2010. The restaurant had a back door entry for people who wanted to smoke hookahs. Eight minors were caught and three adults (owner and two partners) arrested along with 500 packets of molasses, 9 hookahs and cash. When tested, all the forensic reports proved that materials used in the hookah bars contained Nicotine. Hookah bars are not allowed to run with food chains as it violates the provisions and specifications under Section 4 of the Indian tobacco control law, that prohibits tobacco smoking in a restaurant and does not allow any services in a 'smoking area or space' wherever such area is provided.



## Indian tobacco control experts meet to discuss the way forward

The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference on Tobacco or Health (NCTOH) was held at the Tata Memorial Hospital in Mumbai from September 23-25, 2010. The three-day conference, which witnessed a confluence of tobacco control experts from all across India was organized by Healis Sekhsaria Institute for Public Health, Salaam Bombay Foundation and ACT India in collaboration with the Department of Health, Government of Maharashtra and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GOI. The Honourable Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Shri Dinesh Trivedi inaugurated the event.

The Conference emphasized on the complex tobacco problem that exists in India due to the availability of myriad smoking and smokeless forms. Particular focus was laid on promotion of tobacco cessation (especially the smokeless form), engaging media in tobacco control, urgent implementation of pictorial warnings, ban on direct and indirect advertising and gender concerns in tobacco control. NCTOH was preceded by a two-day workshop on youth and tobacco. The national conference provided a platform for tobacco control activists and researchers from across India to deliberate on tobacco control issues that require immediate and focussed attention of the NGOs and the Government. The major priorities in tobacco control identified during the Conference were encapsulated as twelve key recommendations in the Conference Declarations announced at the end of the event.



Chief Medical Officer, MoHFW,  
Dr. Jagdish Kaur

## Joint Round Table Consultation to strengthen tobacco control in five Indian states

A two-day "Joint Round Table Consultation for Awareness to Action through Multi-Channel Advocacy for Effective Tobacco Control in India: Capacity Building in Five Indian States" was organized by HRIDAY on July 26-27, 2010 in New Delhi. The consultation hosted law enforcers and NGO representatives from the states of Bihar, Orissa, Uttarakhand, Karnataka and Haryana. The participants deliberated on strengthening the enforcement mechanism for tobacco control in the states, especially at the district levels.

The government officials in particular were sensitised to the tobacco epidemic in India, various provisions of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act 2003 (COTPA) and India's obligations to the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Chief Medical Officer,

Dr. Jagdish Kaur attended as a key resource person to discuss the National Tobacco Control Programme along with a number of tobacco control experts from The Union. State-specific tobacco control profiles compiled on the basis on an extensive needs-assessment exercise carried out in each of the five states were distributed during the meeting.

During this "Training the Trainers" workshop, law enforcers from each state presented the status of tobacco control and level of implementation of laws in their states. Following this, the government officials and NGO partners from the five states discussed specific needs for more effective implementation of tobacco control in the states as well as at the district level. The action plans developed by the Govt-NGO working groups were presented by the state NGO representatives.



Dr. Rakesh Gupta, Rajasthan Cancer Foundation,  
addresses the audience

## Legal Updates

### Supreme Court bans plastic gutkha sachets ban

The Supreme Court in a landmark interim order, on December 7, 2010, has directed gutkha manufactures against using plastic for manufacturing gutkha packets and explore alternative packaging. The apex court has sought a ban on the sale of tobacco products like gutkha and pan masala in plastic pouches from March 2011. Further, the Bench has instructed the Government to conduct a survey to examine the ill-effects of these products on human health, within a period of eight weeks.

A bench in the Supreme Court had heard a batch of appeals on August 2, 2010 by gutkha manufactures who had challenged a Rajasthan High Court order directing them to pay a fixed amount of "pollution fine" to the state government in proportion to their turnover. The high court, in its August 2007 order, had also directed them to stop using plastic as packaging material. At the time, the Supreme Court had also mentioned that "A balance has to be struck between the fundamental right to trade and occupation under Article 19 of the Constitution and the rights of the public." **Ankur Gutka and Others Vs Indian Asthma Care Society and Others (DC 16308 of 2007)**



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Sale of Cigarettes or any other Tobacco Products in an area within a radius of one hundred yards of any educational institution is prohibited.**

In compliance with Section 6 (b) of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA)

The "Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Display of Board by Educational Institutions) Rules", 2003 have been notified vide G.S.R. 48 (I) dated 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 with effect from the date of their publication.

All Educational Institutions to Display Board

1. "Educational institution" means any place or centre where educational instructions are imparted according to the specific course and include any school/ college and institution of higher learning established or recognized by an appropriate authority;
2. The owner or manager or any person in charge of affairs of the educational institution shall display and exhibit a board at a conspicuous place/s outside the premises, prominently stating that sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products in an area within a radius of one hundred yards of the educational institution is strictly prohibited and is a punishable offence with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.
3. The distance of one hundred yards is to be measured radially starting from the outer limit of boundary wall, fence or in the case of a school, of the educational institution.

Any violation of this provision is a punishable offence with fine upto Rs.200/-  
For detail provisions of Section 6 (b) under COTPA, 2003 - please visit [www.mohtw.nic.in](http://www.mohtw.nic.in)

For reporting of any violation please call on 180000-110456

Issued in Public Interest by  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare,  
Govt. of India

National Tobacco Control Programme

### MoHFW reinforces ban of sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions

In a bid to raise public awareness about Section 6 (b) of COTPA 2003 - ban of sale of tobacco products within a radius of 100 yards of educational institutions - the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) issued a public notice on August 15, 2010. The public notice clearly highlighted the responsibility of educational institutions to display a board outside their boundary walls stating the ban as per the "Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Display of Board by Educational Institutions) Rules" notified on January 10, 2010. The public notice also carried a helpline number to report any violations of the rules.

#### Tobacco Control team at MoHFW

Shri K. Chandramouli – Secretary  
Shri Keshav Desiraju – Addl. Secretary  
Shri B.K. Prasad – Joint Secretary  
Shri R.S. Negi - Under Secretary  
Dr. Jagdish Kaur – Chief Medical Officer

#### National Consultants for Tobacco Control (National Tobacco Control Programme)

Richa Tewari – Legal Consultant  
Ranjit Singh – Legal Consultant

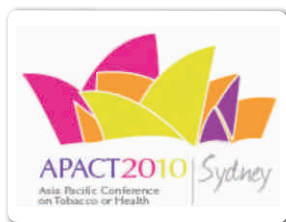
## Global Tobacco Control Updates



### Conference of Parties (COP) 4 held at Punta Del in Uruguay

The fourth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP4) to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control was held from November 15-20, 2010 at Punta Del in Uruguay to discuss the strengthening of global tobacco control measures. The agenda of the Uruguay meeting included areas of Treaty instruments, international and institutional

cooperation and budgetary and institutional matters. One of the primary focus areas of COP4 was countering tobacco industry interference in determining national public health policies. The Parties deliberated on concerns regarding regulation of flavouring ingredients of tobacco products, smoking cessation as an integral aspect of national health systems and capacity building for generating public awareness on the issue. The Conference of Parties also decided to expand its work on prevention and control of smokeless tobacco products, illicit trade of tobacco products and cross-border advertising.



## APACT 2010: Asia Pacific Conference on Tobacco or Health

The Asia Pacific Association for the Control of Tobacco (APACT) 2010 meet was held from October 6 – 9, 2010 in Sydney, Australia. The focus for this year's event was *“Change, Challenge and Progress: FCTC in the Asia Pacific”*. APACT 2010 aimed to encourage tobacco control and public health advocates, researchers, practitioners, policymakers and especially youth leaders to share experiences and discuss strategies for implementation of the FCTC and dealing with the tobacco industry. The conference presented a comprehensive scientific programme that covered key issues of tobacco control identified under the Framework Convention. The Conference also showcased achievements of those countries working towards fulfilling FCTC obligations and challenges faced therein. Several short presentations of case-studies were followed by discussions on smoke-free places. The agenda of the conference also focused on strategies for reduction in tobacco use, tobacco industry tactics and issues of human rights poverty and inequality.

The 'Dr. David Yen Memorial Lecture' was delivered by Professor K. Srinath Reddy, President, Public Health Foundation of India. His talk titled *“Integrating Tobacco Control into Health & Development Agendas”*, focused on the global tobacco burden and identifying ways to fight a collective and consequential battle against tobacco epidemic. He called for greater collaboration within and across civil society groups for furthering the global tobacco control agenda. HRIDAY presented papers on gender and tobacco use and industry tactics in tobacco advertising, at the conference.



Dr. K.S. Reddy

## Obituary

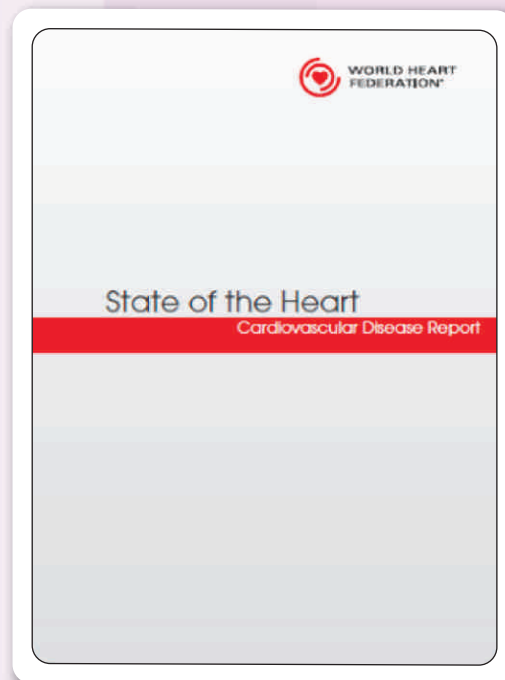
The global tobacco control fraternity mourned the demise of Dr. Eileen Crofton on October 8, 2010. Dr. Crofton was a founder and first Director of ASH Scotland and INWAT (International Network of Women Against Tobacco). Her contribution to the field of tobacco control in United Kingdom and world-over has been an inspiration to many renowned international tobacco control experts. In 2009, REHIS (Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland) along with ASH Scotland had instituted the Crofton Award, to honour Sir John and Lady Eileen Crofton for their efforts to promote tobacco control. This year's Award will be bestowed to encourage existing and new work in tobacco control by youth.

## World Heart Day 2010

On World Heart Day, September 26, 2010, the World Heart Federation (WHF) launched the 'State of Heart' CVD Report to mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World Heart Day. The event is organized every year to create awareness about heart disease and stroke as the leading cause of death world over. In fact, at least 80 percent of premature deaths caused due to heart disease can be prevented if risk factors including tobacco are controlled. The Report identifies key achievements in promoting heart health through policy, medicine and science over the last 10 years and the challenges that lie ahead in tackling cardiovascular diseases (CVD). Widespread adoption by countries of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), the world's first public health treaty, is one such remarkable feat. Of the challenges, the Report highlights 'implementation of 100 % smoke-free policy and affordable smoking-cessation programmes and recommends the following action points to facilitate tobacco control –

- Increase global adherence to the FCTC
- Continue to raise awareness of the dangers of tobacco use via widespread health and media campaigns
- Advocate for comprehensive smoke-free laws and the adoption of smoking-cessation guidelines globally

The Report is available on the following link – (<http://www.world-heart-federation.org/what-we-do/awareness/world-heart-day/world-heart-day-2010/state-of-the-heart-cvd-report/>)





## Pakistan takes a step forward in implementing tobacco control

In a Gazette Notification dated September 6, 2010, the Ministry of Health, Government of Pakistan, has prohibited sale of cigarettes to and by those less than 18 years of age along with no sale of packets with less than 20 cigarette sticks. Under this government order, which will come into force in October 1, 2011, all cigarette sellers in Pakistan are required to clearly and prominently display a board, which states the ban of sale to minors. This move by the government has been lauded by tobacco control proponents, world-over, since it adheres to the FCTC obligations and is a step towards controlling the rise of tobacco use among youth in Pakistan.



Honduran Representative to the United Nations H. E. Manuel Acosta Bonilla signing the FCTC on June 18, 2004

## Honduras adopts official tobacco control law

Newspapers in Honduras, dated August 21, 2010 have reported the adoption of a tobacco control by the country. The Honduras National Congress had approved the tobacco control law earlier in the year. The law will come into force in February 2011. This announcement came days after the official residence of the Honduran President in Tegucigalpa was declared smoke-free. Eighty percent graphic warnings, smoke-free environments, ban on tobacco promotion, cessation programmes, ban on internet and mail order sales and alternative tobacco crops for farmers have been highlighted under the purview of the law, which reiterates the country's obligations to the FCTC.

## Tobacco company agrees to check illicit trade of cigarettes in Europe

A cooperation agreement was signed between British-American Tobacco (Holdings) Ltd (BAT) and the European Union (EU) on July 15, 2010, which recognizes the financial consequences of smuggling and counterfeiting (cigarettes replicated or packaged by a third party without the knowledge of the original manufacturer) , incurred by EU. Under the agreement, BAT will strengthen internal policies to check its global supply chain for cigarettes and will work with the Anti-Fraud Office of the European Commission (OLAF) to combat illicit trade. Article 15 of FCTC enshrines a set of measures to be undertaken by Parties to tackle the issue of such illegal trade.

## Publications

### A study finds that smoking ban leads to drop in the hospitalization of children

Researchers in Scotland have found that the number of children's hospital admissions for childhood asthma have fallen following the enactment of the Smoking, Health and Social Care (Scotland) Act in 2006. After the Act was implemented in 2006, the rate of admissions fell by 18.2 percent per year. The aim of the study was to see if children, who are not exposed to tobacco smoke at workplaces, benefited from the legislation. A thirteen percent net reduction per year in hospital admissions of children lesser than 15 years of age was found by the researchers. The legislation also found an increase in voluntary restrictions to household smoking and a decrease in smoking among children, from five percent in 2004 to three percent in 2007 among 13 year-old boys. The study concluded that a smoking ban can affect not just the target population it is meant for but also those outside it.

(Mackay et al. Smoke-free Legislation and Hospitalizations for Childhood Asthma: *New Engl J of Med* 2010; 363:1139-1145)

### Exposure to secondhand smoke lowers scholastic performance – study

In a study conducted among students in Hong Kong, researchers from the University of Hong Kong have suggested that children and teenagers who are exposed to secondhand smoke (SHS) at home may attain poorer grades than peers from smoke-free homes. Among 23,000 non-smoking students in the age group of 11 to 20 years, one-third who lived with at least one smoker, rates their own school performance as 'poor'. Twenty-three percent of the students, exposed to smoking at home at least five days a week, found their performance poor as compared to their classmates as compared to 17 percent students protected from such smoke. Although the study does not prove the exact correlation between academic performance and secondhand smoke, it substantiates the need to protect children from the dangers of secondhand smoke through more objective measures of SHS.

(Refer Ho et al. Exposure to Secondhand Smoke and Academic Performance in Non-Smoking Adolescents: *J Pediatr*. 2010; 157(6): 1012-1017)



## Workshops & Programmes

### Seminar on tobacco control held in Srinagar

A divisional level 'Seminar on Tobacco Control' was organized by the Jammu and Kashmir Voluntary Health Association (J&KVHA) on October 23, 2010 in Srinagar. The seminar was presided by Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon (IAS) Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir. Representatives from NGOs, health, food & drug, education and police departments were present at the seminar.



Seminar on Tobacco Control in Srinagar

The seminar deliberated upon and acknowledged the harmful effects of tobacco use among the people of the state and called for concerted efforts to tackle the dangers of tobacco use. Discussing

the Global Adult Tobacco Survey India 2009-2010, the gathering was alarmed at the high rate of prevalence of tobacco use in the country, particular in the state. Another area of concern was exposure of tobacco smoke at home which is highest in the state at 68 percent.

Mr. Amit Yadav, Manager Legal, HRIDAY participated as resource person to discuss key provisions of the Indian tobacco control law (COTPA) and how the implementation of the law requires coordinated effort from all government departments.

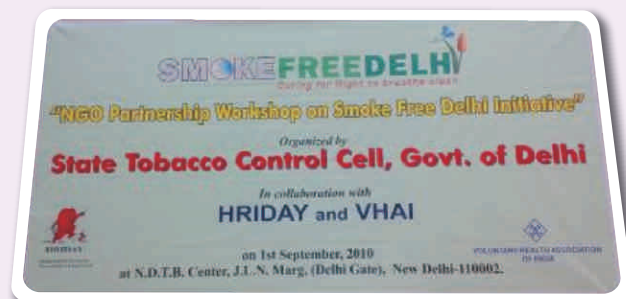
In his address, the Divisional Commissioner stressed on the need for making all public places in Kashmir smoke-free. The discussions concluded with identifying key areas of action for each department for effective implementation of COTPA within their jurisdictions



Participants at the Seminar

### State Consultants attend a training programme on NTCP

The National Institute for Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW) in collaboration with MoHFW and WHO organized a three-day "Training programme on the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) and Polices" between September 13-15, 2010 in New Delhi. State consultants from Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Assam, Maharashtra, Rajasthan Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat attended the workshop. The key objective of the workshop was to sensitise the participants about tobacco control in India and discuss best practices in states. Government officials from MoHFW, public health and tobacco control experts from WHO-SEARO, World Lung Foundation and NGOs like PHFI, HRIDAY and Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI) highlighted various issues including the tobacco epidemic, tobacco control laws, tobacco cessation and alternative livelihoods like beedi workers. Some sessions of the training workshop dealt specifically with the importance of generating awareness and engaging media for tobacco control and state representatives shared their experiences. Legal Officers from HRIDAY presented the status of global and national litigations related to tobacco control. The workshop aimed at strengthening NTCP and effective and synergized implementation of tobacco control across India.



### Sensitising city NGOs towards Smoke-Free Delhi

The State Tobacco Control Cell, Government of NCT of Delhi in collaboration with HRIDAY and VHAI has initiated a series of workshops aimed at sensitizing non-governmental organizations across the city about "Smoke-Free Delhi" and effective implementation of Smoke-Free Rules in the city. The first in the series of workshops, "NGO Partnership Workshop on Smoke-Free Delhi Initiative" was held on August 19, 2010.

The workshop oriented the participants towards the hazards of tobacco smoke in enclosed public places and methods of compliance to Smoke-Free Rules.

NGOs working on various health issues were invited to deliberate upon the importance of integrating tobacco control in their work through a multi-disciplinary approach and assisting the government in effective implementation of tobacco control policies. The second in the series of workshops was organized on September 1, 2010. Legal Officers from HRIDAY attended both the workshops to discuss India's tobacco control laws and its provisions. The main objective of these workshops will be to strengthen the Government-NGO partnership in implementing tobacco control in the capital of India.



Dr. Bhatnagar, Director, VHAJ addresses the audience



### Series of Journalist to Journalist workshops to sensitize media persons about tobacco control continues

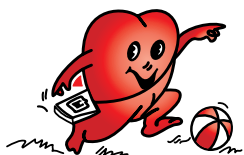
The Journalist to Journalist (J2J) workshop series, organized by the Indian Media Centre for Journalists (IMCFJ), was held on August 11, 2010 in New Delhi. The workshop was aimed at engaging media in tobacco control issues and sensitize journalists about tobacco control policies across India. Legal Officer Deepti Singh from HRIDAY, attended as a resource person to discuss FCTC, Indian tobacco control laws and other related legislations. Like previous workshops in the series, the primary objective was to actively involve media persons in ensuring effective implementation tobacco control in the country.

## Next Issue: Highlights

- Advocacy efforts for implementation of notified pictorial health warnings
- Workshops and Programmes

### Contact us:

We would be happy to receive feedback on this initiative. Please e-mail your comments/suggestions to Ms. Manjusha Chatterjee ([manjusha@hriday-shan.org](mailto:manjusha@hriday-shan.org)). If there is a tobacco control event that you are planning to organize or have any other updates, please share them with us for inclusion in future editions. You can also join us on FACEBOOK ([www.facebook.com/youthforhealth](http://www.facebook.com/youthforhealth)). Remember – this newsletter is based on your inputs.



**HRIDAY** HEALTH RELATED INFORMATION  
DISSEMINATION AMONGST YOUTH

C-1/52, 3rd Floor Safdarjung Development Area,  
New Delhi, India-110016 Tel No.: 91-11-26850342, 26511840,  
Fax: 91-11-26850331 Website: [www.hriday-shan.org](http://www.hriday-shan.org)